Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer

# Improved Forecasting of Solar Particle Events and their Effects on Space Electronics, Phase II



Completed Technology Project (2016 - 2019)

### **Project Introduction**

High-energy space radiation from Galactic Cosmic Rays and Solar Particle Events (SPEs) pose significant risks to equipment and astronaut health in NASA missions. Energetic particles from SPEs associated with flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs) may adversely affect not only beyond-Low-Earth-Orbit missions, but also aircraft avionics, communications, and airline crew/passenger health. It is crucial to develop a capability to forecast SPEs and their effects on systems to guide planning of mission-related tasks and risk mitigation strategies. CFD Research Corporation (CFDRC), University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), and Vanderbilt University (VU) propose to develop a comprehensive forecasting capability - SPE Forecast (SPE4) comprising state-of-the-art modules integrated within a novel computational framework. SPE4 will include: (a) the MAG4 code for probability forecasts of flares/CMEs, and SPEs, (b) the PATH code for solar particle transport through the heliosphere, (c) Geant4-based transport calculations including geomagnetic modulation and atmospheric interactions (for avionics) to yield spectra of SPE-induced energetic protons/heavy ions, interfaced to (d) the CR? ME96 code for calculation of resulting effects in electronics. In Phase I, we demonstrated the superior capability of MAG4, PATH, and Geant4 for their respective tasks using a prior solar event case. A controller script was developed for automated code execution and data transfer across interfaces. Functionality of the overall event-to-effects capability was demonstrated using the 28-Sep-2012 event. We developed a concept of the final software product for NASA based on client-server architecture. In Phase II, we will collaborate with VU to interface calculated particle spectra with CR?ME96 to determine single-event effects in electronics. We will enhance robustness, accuracy, and execution speed via improved models and procedures, and demonstrate the software for persistent 24x7 SPE monitoring.



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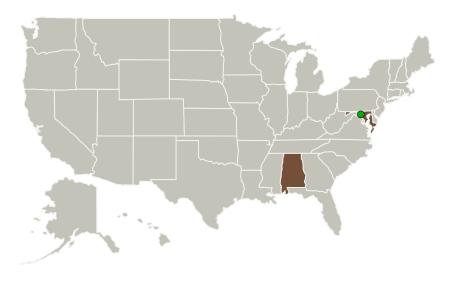


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### **Primary U.S. Work Locations and Key Partners**



Organizations Performing Work	Role	Туре	Location
CFD Research	Lead	Industry	Huntsville,
Corporation	Organization		Alabama
Goddard Space Flight Center(GSFC)	Supporting	NASA	Greenbelt,
	Organization	Center	Maryland
University of Alabama in Huntsville(UAH)	Supporting Organization	Academia	Huntsville, Alabama

Primary U.S. Work Locations	
Alabama	Maryland

### **Project Transitions**



# Organizational Responsibility

# Responsible Mission Directorate:

Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)

#### **Lead Organization:**

CFD Research Corporation

#### **Responsible Program:**

Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer

# **Project Management**

#### **Program Director:**

Jason L Kessler

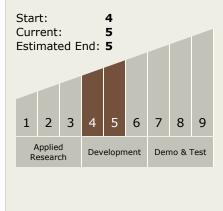
#### **Program Manager:**

Carlos Torrez

#### **Principal Investigator:**

Ashok Raman

# Technology Maturity (TRL)





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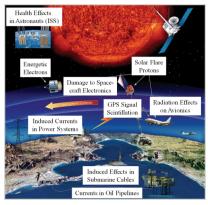


March 2019: Closed out

#### **Closeout Documentation:**

• Final Summary Chart(https://techport.nasa.gov/file/140789)

### **Images**



#### **Briefing Chart Image**

Improved Forecasting of Solar Particle Events and their Effects on Space Electronics, Phase II (https://techport.nasa.gov/imag e/136853)



#### **Final Summary Chart Image**

Improved Forecasting of Solar Particle Events and their Effects on Space Electronics, Phase II (https://techport.nasa.gov/imag e/128411)

## **Technology Areas**

#### **Primary:**

- TX06 Human Health, Life Support, and Habitation Systems
  - □ TX06.5 Radiation
    - □ TX06.5.4 Space
      Weather Prediction

## **Target Destinations**

The Sun, Earth, The Moon, Mars, Others Inside the Solar System, Outside the Solar System

